

2004 Current Fiscal Year Report: Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Footwear Leather and Leather Products for Trade Policy Matters (ISAC 8)

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

2. Fiscal Year

2004

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Footwear Leather and Leather Products for Trade Policy Matters (ISAC 8)

3b. GSA Committee No.

343

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year? 5. Current Charter 6. Expected Renewal Date 7. Expected Term Date

No 03/17/2004 03/18/2004 06/16/2004

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? 8b. Specific Termination Authority 8c. Actual Term Date

Yes 06/16/2004

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? 10b. Legislation Pending?

Terminate No

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority 13. Effective Date 14. Committee Type 14c. Presidential?

19 U.S.C. 2155 01/03/1975 Continuing No

15. Description of Committee National Policy Issue Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports 4

16b. Report Date

Report Title

03/12/2004 ISAC 08 Statutory Report on U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement

03/12/2004 ISAC 08 Statutory Report on U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement

04/05/2004 ISAC 08 Statutory Report on U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement

04/22/2004 ISAC 08 Statutory Report on U.S.-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 4

17a. Open 0 17b. Closed 4 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total Meetings and Dates 4

Purpose

Start

End

Topics discussed included: ISAC 8's 2004 Work Plan; the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); the U.S.-Australia FTA; the U.S.-Thailand FTA; U.S.-China Trade; Leather/Plastic Coating and 01/27/2004 - 01/27/2004 Travel Goods; and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

Topics discussed included: Finalization of ISAC's Report on the U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement (FTA); and Finalization of ISAC 8's Report on the U.S.-Central America FTA (CAFTA). Members finalized and voted on the reports. 03/11/2004 - 03/11/2004

The topic discussed was Finalization of ISAC 8's Report on the U.S.-Morocco Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Members finalized and voted on the report. 03/25/2004 - 03/25/2004

The topic discussed was Finalization of ISAC 8's Report on the U.S.-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Members finalized and voted on the report. 04/19/2004 - 04/19/2004

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 4

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$46,150.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$25.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$46,175.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.60	0.60

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Industry Sector Advisory Committee on Footwear, Leather and Leather Products provides advice and recommendations on a wide range of trade policy issues affecting these industries. The Committee met one time this year, in January 2004, and held three conference calls, two in March 2004 and one in April 2004. During the past year, ISAC 8 continued to provide recommendations and advice on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); the U.S.-Australia FTA; the U.S.-Thailand FTA; the U.S.-Dominican Republic FTA; the U.S.-Morocco FTA; leather/plastic coating and travel goods; and U.S.-China trade issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

ISAC 8 membership includes representatives of the footwear, leather tanning, luggage, personal leather goods, handbag, leather wearing apparel, glove, and footwear components, and shipping and logistics industries. The ISAC's members themselves have continued to change during the year, with the majority currently serving as executives of domestic importing/manufacturing companies (versus primarily manufacturing companies in earlier years), as well as CEOs of U.S. companies with parts of their manufacturing facilities or suppliers based overseas. This reflects both the need and ability of ISAC 8's members to adapt to the challenges of constantly changing global markets. In addition,

several of ISAC 8's members are executives of trade associations. ISAC 8 continues to pursue geographic and demographic balance within the Committee, with its Chair as a woman, and with representatives from all parts of the United States. The views expressed at ISAC meetings represent the entire range of trade policy issues that face all of these industries and affect their production, shipments, employment, finances, imports, and exports.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee meets approximately four times a year. However, the actual number of meetings is dictated by Government need for private sector advice. The U.S. Government will be engaged in multilateral and bilateral trade policy initiatives including the World Trade Organization (WTO), and WTO rulings on footwear, the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), bilateral trade and travel goods issues with China, China's trade compliance, intellectual property rights' (IPR) issues, and issues relating to various proposed free trade agreements. The advice the Government receives from the private sector through the advisory committee will be an on-going process and will be an intrinsic part of developing U.S. positions for all policy negotiations.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The committee structure ensures a unique source of information to the Government. All members have security clearances and through a continuing dialogue with Government officials are made aware of Government trade policy at a level not otherwise available to the private sector. Because this Committee remains current in the broad spectrum of trade policy rather than a single facet -- as would be the case in the absence of a committee structure -- the private sector input from the Committee is more pertinent. The advisory committee program, legislatively mandated, is the single formal comprehensive consultative link between the U.S. Government and U.S. industry and has the responsibility to address all issues concerning trade policy. ISAC 8 provides candid and unique advice to U.S. government negotiators on such issues as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); World Trade Organization (WTO) rulings on footwear; the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); the U.S.-Australia FTA; the U.S.-Thailand FTA; the U.S.-Dominican Republic FTA; the U.S.-Morocco FTA; leather/plastic coating and travel goods; and U.S.-China trade issues.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

The Industry Consultations Program was established by the Trade Act of 1974 and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Subsection 135(f) of the

Trade Act provides that the ISACs shall be exempt from the provisions of the FACA relating to open meetings, public notice, public participation, and public availability of documents when it is determined that the proceedings would, if disclosed, seriously compromise the Government's negotiating objectives or bargaining positions regarding trade policy matters. ISAC meetings routinely involve these kinds of discussions. The United States Trade Representative (USTR) evaluates each meeting agenda and issues a Notice of Determination when it is necessary to close meetings. ISAC 8, in particular, provides candid and unique advice from the footwear, leather, and leather products industry to U.S. government negotiators on such issues as the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); World Trade Organization (WTO) rulings on footwear; the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA); the U.S.-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA); the U.S.-Australia FTA; the U.S.-Thailand FTA; the U.S.-Dominican Republic FTA; the U.S.-Morocco FTA; leather/plastic coating and travel goods; and U.S.-China trade issues. ISAC 8 members would not offer such frank, honest, and useful advice to U.S. government officials on ongoing negotiations without the ability to close ISAC 8 meetings.

21. Remarks

Designated Federal Officer

Charles Rast DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Abraham, Richard	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Member of the Board, Airway Industries, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Callanan, John	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Chief Operating Officer, NewGrange LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cooper, Mitchell	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Esquire Of Counsel, Representing Rubber and Plastics Footwear Manufacturers Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Datta, Sudepto	11/26/2002	06/16/2004	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Global Brand Marketing, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Davis, James	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Chairman, New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Evenson, Fawn	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	President, Footwear Industries of America Division, American Apparel and Footwear Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hennessey, Michael	03/17/2002	06/03/2003	President, Munro & Company, Inc	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Herman, Nate	04/24/2002	06/16/2004	International Trade & Customs Specialist, Travel Goods Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kaufman, Rolf	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	Vice Chairman, Wellco Enterprises, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Korchmar, Michael	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	President, Korchmar Leather Speciality Company	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kotkins, Henry	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	President and Chief Executive Officer, Skyway Luggage Company	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Leifer, Bernard	03/17/2002	06/16/2004	President and Chief Executive Officer, S. G. Footwear, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Mayes, Sara 10/08/2003 06/16/2004 President, Gemini Shippers Group

Myers, Charles 03/17/2002 06/16/2004 President, Leather Industries of America

O'Neil, John 03/17/2002 06/16/2004 Advisor, Norcross Safety Products, LLC

Special Government
Employee (SGE) Member
Special Government
Employee (SGE) Member
Special Government
Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 15

Narrative Description

The Committee provides detailed policy and technical advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary and the USTR regarding trade barriers and implementation of trade agreements negotiated under Sections 101 or 102 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, and Sections 1102 and 1103 of the 1988 Trade Act, which affect the products of its sector; and performs such other advisory functions relevant to U.S. trade policy as may be requested by the Secretary and the USTR or their designees.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

Effective in formulating trade policy objectives of the Administration.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000

☐

Over \$10,000,000

☐

Cost Savings Other

☐

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

Number of Recommendations Comments

No measurable calculation is possible as recommendations are mostly made during meetings.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

No measurable calculation is possible as recommendations are mostly made during meetings.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

No measurable calculation is possible as recommendations are mostly made during meetings.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Feedback is primarily rendered during meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Issued changes in texts of trade agreements.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

NA